

Attorney Docket No. LEAP:128US
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/811,346
Reply to Office Action of May 16, 2007
Date: July 12, 2007

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A removable interchangeable focus adjustment knob, said removable focus adjustment knob is magnetically fastenable to a planar outer surface of a focus adjustment means in a manner that prevents separation of said removable focus adjustment knob from said focus adjustment means in an axial direction during rotational movement of said knob, and enables rotational slippage between said removable focus adjustment knob and said focus adjustment means when upper and lower limits of focusing are reached.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The adjustment knob of Claim 1 wherein said focus adjustment means comprises a rotatable shaft.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The adjustment knob of Claim 1 adapted for complementary magnetically attractive engagement with said focus adjustment means.

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (previously presented): A microscope comprising:
a focus adjustment means and a removable interchangeable focus adjustment knob, said removable focus adjustment knob is magnetically and removably fastenable to a planar outer surface of said focus adjustment means in a manner that prevents axial separation of said removable focus adjustment knob from said focus adjustment means during rotational movement of said knob, and enables rotational slippage between said removable focus adjustment knob and said focus adjustment means when upper and lower limits of focusing are reached.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 5 wherein said focus adjustment means comprises a rotatable shaft attached opposite the attachment of said removable focus adjustment knob to said planar outer surface.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 5 wherein said focus adjustment knob is adapted for complementary magnetically attractive engagement with said focus adjustment means.

Claim 8 (cancelled)

Claim 9 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 5 comprising a second focus adjustment means.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 9 wherein said second focus adjustment means comprises a second focusing means.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 9 wherein said removable interchangeable focus adjustment knob is magnetically fastenable to a planar outer surface of said second focus adjustment means.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A microscope comprising:

a focus adjustment means comprising a first focus adjustment knob and a removable focus adjustment knob;

a focus drive means having a planar outer surface, wherein said removable focus adjustment knob is removably attachable to said planar outer surface, said first focus adjustment knob and said removable focus adjustment knob are coaxial and independently rotatable with respect to one another at the same time, and said removable focus adjustment knob is removably attachable to the left or the right side of said microscope.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 12 wherein said focus drive means includes a rotatable shaft.

Claim 14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 13 wherein said removable focus adjustment knob is removably attachable to said focus drive means by a complementary fastening means that prevents separation of said removable focus adjustment knob in an axial direction from said focus drive means, and enables rotational slippage between said removable focus adjustment knob and said focus drive means when upper and lower focusing limits are reached.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 15 wherein said complementary fastening means is magnetic.

Claim 17 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 15 wherein said complementary fastening means comprises pin means extending axially of said removable focus adjustment knob and pin receiving means complementarily extending axially of said focus drive means.

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Claim 18 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 17 wherein one of said pin means and said pin receiving means is formed of magnetic material and the other of said pin means and said pin receiving means is formed of magnetically attractable material.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 12 wherein said focus drive means is operatively arranged for causing vertical displacement of a microscope stage.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 19 comprising at least two focus adjustment means, each having a removable focus adjustment knob, disposed on opposite sides of said microscope.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The microscope of Claim 20 wherein one of said removable focus adjustment knobs has an axial length greater than another.

Claims 22 – 36 (cancelled)

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